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NEWS BRIEFS

Burglars steal from 16 homes

NEW BRUNSWICK — In just 13 days, more than 16 homes have been burglarized. The thieves have stolen money, electronic equipment and jewelry. The thefts have taken place in the town's 2nd and 5th wards and authorities are warning residents to be careful of strangers.

Authorities believe the robberies, which have occurred in homes with open windows or doors, have been committed by one or two people. The crimes have taken place when residents were either at work or school. Seven of the homes that were robbed were located in the area of off-campus apartments.

Clinton appeals court decision on census

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration is pressing for a Supreme Court ruling on the use of modern polling techniques it contends will better account for minorities and city dwellers in the 2000 Census.

The solicitor general has appealed a federal court ruling barring use of statistical sampling for the national head count and will ask for Supreme Court review, the Justice Department said in a statement last week.

The census is used to determine how many congressional seats each state gets.

House Republicans used over administration plans to sue sampling, claiming it violates the constitutional requirement for an "actual enumeration" of the population. A federal court panel ruled recently that the sampling plan violates the Census Act.

Toll hikes denounced as counterproductive

ATLANTIC CITY (AP) — A plan to increase tolls on the Atlantic City Expressway was ripped last week as counterproductive to New Jersey shore tourism. Representatives of local businesses, limousine drivers, bus operators and residents denounced the proposed increases. If approved, the hikes will drive customers away from casinos and other local businesses that rely on drive-in traffic, critics said.

"It's time to buckle up and tighten your financial seat belts," said Curtis Kugel, an Atlantic City businessman who was one of the speakers at the 90-minute hearing at the Atlantic City Convention Center. The toll hikes, which would be the Expressway's first in nearly 30 years, would double to \$1 toll now paid at the Egg Harbor toll plaza and the 25-cent toll in Pleasantville for motorists who pay in cash.

Fake money found in front of bodega

NEWARK — Counterfeit money was recently found outside a Newark bodega. The fake \$5 and \$20 bills were printed on what the Secret Service believes is City of Newark stationery. The bills, which were discovered near South Street in Newark's Central Ward, were printed on 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheets of paper. The owner of Atlanta's Supermarket discovered a bag filled with \$195 in counterfeit bills.

Investigators are working to find out where the papers came from. A representative from the Mayor's office said stationery, which includes Mayor Sharpe James' name and the city council members, is often mailed to the public and distributed at special events.

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Get the news that's relevant to you, your family and your community's progress.

New communication for the next millennium: The launch of CityNET

By g. mallow
Staff Writer

NEWARK — Many talk about the concept of change in the next millennium, but what are the ways to put the theory into practice? How does one start, and what avenues do you travel to get there?

Communication is key to the development of this change, and now there is an innovative program in place that will reach all the avenues.

Last Tuesday was the launch of CityNET, an information exchange program that provides two-way, cross cultural interaction and information gathering. It was more than an after-work networking reception, it was the beginning of a new and improved concept of community and communication. Over 200 people from various social, religious, community and corporate organizations joined the staff and management of the City News Publishing Company to support the launch with the idea to share information, and develop ideas that can be transformed into concrete results.

The event took place in the Theatre Grill at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), which demonstrated its commitment to CityNET by co-hosting the event. The Theatre Grill is fast becoming known for its elegance and ambience — not to mention good food.

In her introduction to the speakers for the evening, Jan Johnson, Executive Vice-President and Editor in Chief, City News Publishing Company, said there is a need to highlight the accomplishment of the city's successful people and programs. "The economy is doing well, and we in this room are doing well," she said. "But not enough people know about it, and not enough people are benefiting from the knowledge and resources that are easily available to us."

Following her remarks, Johnson introduced the first of many supporters of the CityNET concept. While many of the speakers were from the religious community, they have close ties with corporations, government and the general com-

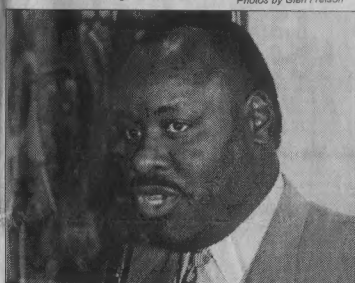


Dianne Keel Abrams, right, of the New Garden State Jurisdiction Church of God in Christ, stood in for Bishop William Cannon, who is pastor of House of God Church in Christ. "When you talk about the new millennium, you're only talking about 500 days from now," she said. "So it's not too late to start practical planning, non-duplication of effort and a great deal of collaboration. CityNET is a great forum to initiate all three of these ideas." Standing next to Abrams is City News Editor-in-Chief Jan L. Edgerton Johnson. Photos by Glen Preston

munity.

Reverend Calvin McKinney has served as pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Garfield for the past 25 years. He is also president of the General Baptist Convention of New Jersey, Inc., an organization that has a membership of over 300,000 members in 1,000 churches across the state. "We need to come together collectively as we look towards the 21st century to become a more prepared people," he said. "We must be prepared to become involved in a number of areas so we can help make life worth living for our brothers and sisters and our children that are going to live in this new millennium. We who represent Christ and Christendom are taking a bold stance towards this goal and we support entities like the CityNET initiative that will make this happen."

Woodbridge Mayor Jim McGreevey presented a proclamation commemorating the CityNET launch, and noted the development of the initiative's concept of an urban policy where people in various areas share expertise, information and data. He continued by saying that those assembled would be a part of the commitment to move the initiative, and thereby the state, forward. "It is about articulating and sharing a thoughtful vision, putting



Reverend Calvin McKinney was one of the enthusiastic supporters who addressed the audience at the launch of CityNET.

together an action plan, and then putting it into effect," he said.

Reverend Letro James, of Paradise Baptist Church in Newark

Continued on Page B6

Former orange mayor gets election fine

ORANGE — Former Assemblyman and Orange Mayor Robert L. Brown, and Michael Critchley, his campaign treasurer were recently fined by the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) for a number of election law violations.

The violations were in connection to Brown's campaigns for state Senate and mayor.

The fine, which is in the amount of \$13,565, is one of the highest levied by the Commission against a political candidate. A complaint was first filed against Brown in

1995 in regard to his record keeping for his unsuccessful bid for a Senate seat in 1993. Another set of complaints were filed against Brown a year after his 1994 municipal race for mayor. The cases were then combined.

The Election Law Enforcement Commission cited Brown for filing incomplete reports without contributor information and for failing to file reports on time. He was also cited for his personal use of campaign funds in his primary campaign for Senate and for not filing

loan information. Brown lost the primary to Senator Richard Codey.

Brown was unsuccessful in his second bid for mayor in 1996, losing the race to Mayor Mims Hackel. For that campaign, he was cited for failing to file reports on time.

Critchley, who is also a criminal defense attorney, feels the Commission's consent order was an agreement on violations he says are technical in nature.

Critchley and Brown split the cost of the fine handed down by the ELEC.



Robert L. Brown

Labor Day Weekend hosts two 'Million Youth' marches

By Paul Shepard
Special to the NJPA

Two "Million Youth" events, organized by diverse segments of the civil rights movement for the Labor Day weekend, could turn into a tug-of-war for America's minority youth.

The Million Youth Movement, backed by a coalition of civil rights advocates including the NAACP, the Nation of Islam and Jesse Jackson's Rainbow/Push Coalition, is scheduled for Sept. 4-7 in Atlanta, Ga.

Meanwhile, the Million Youth March is set for Sept. 5 in Harlem, N.Y. Its chief organizers include former U.S. Islam spokesman Khalid Abdul Muhammad and is supported by New York activist Al Sharpton.

The events' leaders have played down competition between the two gatherings for the most part, despite their similar names, goals and attempts to appeal to minority youth. Their idea grew out of the 1995 Million Man March held in Washington, D.C. that was organized by Nation of Islam leader

Louis Farrakhan to persuade Black men to be responsible husbands, fathers and members of Black society.

Speakers at the New York march included the Atlanta gathering, see the timing of the events as troubling.

"It may not reflect who is really reaching the young people, but we will all be looking if 10,000 show up at one march and one million show up at the other," he said.

The Atlanta group represents a more mainstream view of civil rights leadership, which more radical elements have branded as too moderate and out of touch with the realities of young people. Speakers at the New York march are more in line with radical Black nationalist thought. The agenda includes demands for release of political prisoners, reparations for descendants of slaves and "unity and love among our youth and people."

Differing philosophies over how best to elevate the black community reflect an old split within America's black leadership.

At the turn of the century, Booker T. Washington advised blacks to stop demanding equal rights with whites, which brought him in conflict with another black leader, W.E.B. DuBois, an uncompromising spokesman for parity with whites.

And in the background of the 1960s civil rights struggle was an ideological fissure between black nationalists like Malcolm X and more traditional leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr. Washington, D.C. attorney Malik Z. Shabazz, national youth director for the New York march, said his group tried to unify the marches earlier this year but was rebuffed by Atlanta organizers because of the philosophical differences. "They didn't agree with our position on black power," Shabazz said. "The difference between our march and what they are doing is that we are black nationalists, and we aren't compromising in putting together an agenda for black people."

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani has condemned the rally as a "hate march" because of what he called,

"racebaiting and anti-Semitic" comments from Muhammad.

Although the city has denied organizing a permit for the event, citing traffic concerns, the court rescinded the decision. Shabazz said it will go on as scheduled.

"De King didn't have a permit every time he marched," Shabazz said. "We are still in negotiations with the city, but we will be there (in Harlem). Giuliani can't stop us from marching. Only God can do that."

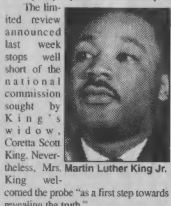
Atlanta organizers see nothing wrong with two marches on the same weekend. "There should be a march in every city where youth are engaged in self-destructive lifestyles," said Ashad Malik, a 27-year-old computer technician and publicity director for the Atlanta event.

"We aren't looking at this as a competition, even though there are people who will try to play up divisions instead of what makes us similar," Ashad said.

Review of Rev. King assassination ordered

By Michael J. Siffen
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Janet Reno requested the investigation of the 30-year-old assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., focusing on two allegations of a conspiracy beyond James Earl Ray.



King, well, coned the probe "As a first step towards revealing the truth."

"I hope this inquiry will open a wider investigation of all pertinent leads," said Mrs. King, whom Reno consulted for months and informed of the decision the night prior to the announcement. "When this is accomplished, our family and the American people will at last have the satisfaction that all relevant evidence has been fully examined."

In a brief written announcement, Reno said, "We hope this review will provide answers to new questions that have been raised about a tragedy that still haunts our nation." She premised a report on the findings.

Despite a narrow initial focus on separate allegations by a retired FBI agent and a former Memphis, Tenn., barber, "The evidence gathered by the inquiry will be followed wherever it may lead," the Justice Department said.

The review will be conducted by civil rights division lawyers, aided by criminal division attorneys, under the leadership of Barry Kovalsky. To eliminate any appearance of prejudging the outcome, Reno and FBI Director Louis Freeh agreed that the FBI will not participate in the review. Justice officials said.

A talk on 'race profiling'

By Wendy Ruderman
Associated Press Writer

TRENTON (AP) — Attorney General Peter Verniero is organizing a summit that will bring police and civil rights leaders together to discuss why many minorities mistrust state troopers.

Verniero said recently the sensitive topic was a response to a May Eagleton poll in which 72 percent of black respondents said troopers treat minorities worse than they treat others.

Sixty-four percent of blacks said they believe troopers use race or age as reasons to pull over certain motorists, a practice known as "racial profiling."

"I'm concerned," Verniero said. "The purpose of the summit is not to place fingers at anyone. It's to have a candid, open discussion about people's feelings and why those feelings exist."

A telephone poll was conducted shortly after two white state troopers died in a car carrying three blacks and a Hispanic on the New Jersey Turnpike during a traffic stop in April. Three occupants were shot.

Lawyers for three of the four occupants claim troopers targeted the men because they are minorities.

Verniero said the fall summit, expected to draw 500 people, will not address the tumult case. However, participants will not be prevented from talking about allegations of racial profiling.

Reverend Reginald T. Jackson, executive director of the Black Ministers Council of New Jersey and Sea Isle City, said the Civil Rights Leaders are among the 16 state and community leaders who received a letter from Verniero seeking their input on the summit to be held in November or early December.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

PRINCETON—Australis, the traveling specialist for Australia, will be hosting Discover Downunder workshop at the Princeton Holiday Inn at 7:30 p.m. 1-(800) 633-3404

CRANFORD—Students can register for Union County College courses between 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the College's campuses in Cranford, Elizabeth and Plainfield. (908) 709-7550

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

PLAINFIELD—The Community Support Program, called APC will host a 5th anniversary celebration of the program. (908) 754-9212

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

GARWOOD—The Union County Coalition for the prevention of Substance Abuse, a program of the Saint Barnabas Behavioral Health Network, will host the nationally acclaimed speaker, Dr. Michael Thompson, a renowned international authority on parenting, at The Westwood, in Garwood. (908) 686-6644

HOLMDEL—The 11th annual Festival of the Arts & Heritage of African Americans takes place at the PNC Bank Arts Center beginning at 10 a.m. (732) 223-9389

PLAINFIELD—The Moja Gallery will present a Art For Africa relief exhibition beginning at 4 p.m. (908) 755-8244

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Public Library will have its annual book sale (908) 737-1111

SANDY HOOK—The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, will sponsor its 2nd Annual Fluke Tournament beginning at 9:00 a.m. (732) 872-1300

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

SHEWSBURY—The Jersey Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross will host the GPU Energy Rock'n Roll Bike Tour beginning at 9 a.m. (702) 741-3443

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

NEWARK—The Newark Museum will be offering tours to Philadelphia's Chestnut Hill (973) 596-6638

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

MAHWAH—Rampage College will open an exhibition on photographs from the city lights movement beginning at 5 p.m.

PLAINFIELD—The Mothers' Center of Central New Jersey will hold its semi annual consignment sale through Sunday beginning at 9 a.m. (908) 561-1751

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

NEWARK—The Newark Public Library will host an exhibition of Puerto Rico 1898-1998: A Century of Change and Uncertainty during library hours. (973) 733-7772

BELLE MEAD—The Carrier Foundation will present Considering Cultural Factors in Clinical Practice seminar beginning at noon (908) 218-1461

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

NEW YORK—The NBA and Hoop-it-up—the league's and NBC Sports' official 3-on-3 street basketball tour—today announces the worldwide Tour's return to New York for the third consecutive year. For registration information, players can call the Hoop-It-Up New York City hotline at 888-313-PLAY.

OCEAN GROVE—The Historic Society will host a concert in honor of Paul Robeson. (732) 774-1869

JERSEY CITY—New Jersey City University will host a SAT Review course beginning at 8 a.m. (201) 200-3426

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

CRANFORD—Union County Community College will offer a non-credit course on Principles of Real Estate beginning at 9 a.m. (908) 709-7553.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

CLARK—The public library will present

its Fall Young Readers Club program beginning at 3:30 p.m. (732) 388-5999

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

WEST ORANGE—The United Way of Essex and West Hudson will host a campaign kick-off tailgate party at Meyler Farms beginning at 12 noon. Contact the United Way of Essex and West Hudson for information

EAST RUTHERFORD—The New Jersey Organization for a Better State (NEWS) is hosting a Night at the Meadowlands to honor outstanding candidates for the State Legislature (609) 333-7707

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

CRANFORD—Union County College will offer a non-credit course on workplace operations (908) 709-7553

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

NASSAU—The American Concern for Arts and Craftsmanship takes pleasure in announcing The 2nd Annual Art of Craft Festival, an exposition designed as Long Island's most elegant American crafts event to be held at The Nassau County Museum of Art. A special preview will be held from 5-6pm to benefit the Museum. 516-484-9337.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

NEWARK—Local author Carlton Lewis will be signing copies of his critically acclaimed fiction novel Pigmentation at Kedar Book Store beginning at 1 p.m. (973) 242-4296

MARGATE—The city will host a blues and jazz Fall Furlift By the Bay beginning at 10:00 a.m. through Sunday (609) 748-4550

JERSEY CITY—New Jersey City University will offer four swimming classes for children. (201) 200-3098

NEWARK—The Newark Museum will host a series of planetarium events through Sunday beginning at 1 p.m. (973) 596-6638

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

LEDONIA—Holy Name Hospital will organize its second annual Bergen County 5k walk/run at Overlook Park beginning at 10 a.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

NEW YORK—The Museum of Modern Art will host a tribute to the film work of Gordon Parks through the Oct 4 (212) 708-9467

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

ATLANTIC CITY—The New Jersey Business Community will host the New Jersey Conference on Volunteerism at the Harrah's Marina Hotel beginning at 6 p.m. (609) 984-3470

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

WEST ORANGE—1998 Clara Maass Foundation Golf Invitational will be held at the acclaimed Montclair Country Club. If you have any questions, please contact (973) 460-2277.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

SKILLMAN—The American Repertory Ballet/Princeton Ballet School presents a Fall Spring Meet and Tennis Outing at the Beden's Brook Club beginning at 10:30 a.m. (732) 249-1254.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

PLAINFIELD—The Fire Department will hold its 1st Fall Prevention Fair at the Hub State Athletic Field beginning at 10 a.m. (908) 753-3446

WAYNE—William Paterson University will host a Art at Lunch series beginning at 1:15 a.m. (973) 720-2854

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

ATLANTIC CITY—Eight time Boston and New York Marathon winner, Bill Rodgers, will face Olympic Marathon winner Frank Shorter in a 5k race held as part of the 39th Annual Atlantic City Marathon. Half Marathon, 10-K, 5-K and 2-mile halfwalk. Come along and join in the fun, and watch two of the world's greatest race each other. Call 609-601-1144.

Housing Authority of Long Branch wins several awards



LONG BRANCH—The Housing Authority of the City of Long Branch is the 1998 recipient of ten National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials' (NAHRO) Merit Awards.

NAHRO is honored to recognize the achievements of agencies like the LHRA, said NAHRO President Deborah M. Eriksen, PHM. "Their commitment to improving their community through innovative programs and services should be an example to us all."

The awards which recognize outstanding achievement in housing and development programs throughout the nation, were presented to Long Branch Housing Authority's (LBHA) Executive Director, David A. Brown, members of the Board of Commissioners and staff in Boston, Massachusetts.

In accepting the awards, David A. Brown said, "This is the true indicator of the work that is being done. It's more than I dreamed or imagined. Ten awards in one year is incredible." He went on to say, "This year has been the greatest year for this Housing Authority."

Phil King named 'Employee of the month'



Shown (l-r): Monsignor John J. Gilchrist, Spiritual Director, Essex-West Hudson Labor Council; Roz Samuels, Secretary-Treasurer, Local 481 Newark Teachers Union, AFT; J.J. Johnson, Grand Marshal of the 1998 Celebration of Labor; and Thomas P. Giffin, President of the Essex-West Hudson Labor Council.

NEWARK—Holidays don't just happen. In fact, these special occasions are equalized to commemorate a great event or, in many cases, to keep memories and passions alive. In keeping with more than a hundred years of tradition, the art, history and culture of the labor movement

PLAINFIELD—Phil King, a maintenance mechanic at JFK Hartwig at Edison Estates, was named August Employee of the Month. Mr. King has been an employee at Edison Estates for eight years. He was recognized for his continuous professionalism and dedication to his job. According to one of the employees who nominated him, "Phil has demonstrated an ability to weigh the needs and concerns of staff along with patient care needs. He clearly demonstrates leadership and dedication well beyond expectations."

JFK's Employee of the Month award is given to an employee who exhibits outstanding dedication and performance.

Organized Labor plans to celebrate Labor Day



Shown (l-r): Monsignor John J. Gilchrist, Spiritual Director, Essex-West Hudson Labor Council; Roz Samuels, Secretary-Treasurer, Local 481 Newark Teachers Union, AFT; J.J. Johnson, Grand Marshal of the 1998 Celebration of Labor; and Thomas P. Giffin, President of the Essex-West Hudson Labor Council.

"7th annual celebration of labor," will take place Sept. 11 at 5:30 p.m. beginning with a march from Newark City Hall and proceed down Broad Street to Washington Street.

Labor Day happens to be one of America's greatest holidays because it honors the workers of America

while, at the same time, it pays homage to Organized Labor for improving living conditions for all Americans. The first Labor Day was in 1884, established by NJ resident, Peter J. McGuire. McGuire was an official with Carpenters International Union.

Officials celebrate Rahway train station reconstruction project



RAHWAY—Chester Holmes, Rahway Mayor James Kennedy, NJ Transit Executive Director Shirley A. Delibero, Assemblyman Neil Cohen and Lewis Mingo, Jr.

This is the beginning of the Rahway Central Business District revitalization that will enhance the economy and ultimately improve the quality of life for our citizens," said Union County Freeholder Chester Holmes. Funds for the reconstruction project came from the Federal Transit Administration and the State Transportation Trust Fund. Construction began in 1995 with the demolition of the old building, which was built in 1930. Improvements include a new concrete building with a reconfigured pedestrian tunnel, reconstructed high level platforms and a concession area that will include the Moca Motion Cafe, scheduled to open in the spring. In addition, the project included a new, 1,100-square-foot climate-controlled waiting room, display cases for NJ Transit and community information, two handicap accessible rest rooms and two elevators.

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— Paul Robeson

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INVESTMENT TENDERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

SOMERSET—Global Resources will be registering MBA for the Mid-Atlantic Park program. Call (973) 984-3100 for more.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

TRENTON—The New York-New Jersey Investment Purchasing Council will be hosting a "Train Ride Into the Future" for information on New York City. Call (212) 282-2334.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

NEW YORK—Professional Woman Construction (PWC) presents "Developers Forum" at 8:00 A.M. to 10 A.M. at the Yale Club, 100 Wall Street, at 44th Street, New York City. For more information call PWC at 212-687-0610 or fax 212-490-1213.

NEWARK—The regional business community will select the power of investing— from stocks, bonds, and mutual funds to private companies, real estate, and art—at the First Black Investors Conference, in Washington, D.C. The agenda includes information-packed workshops, financial analysts, portfolio managers and valuable networking opportunities. To register, call (888) 411-2624.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

WASHINGTON—COBI invites African Americans to seize the power of investing— from stocks, bonds, and mutual funds to private companies, real estate, and art—at the First Black Investors Conference, in Washington, D.C. The agenda includes information-packed workshops, financial analysts, portfolio managers and valuable networking opportunities. To register, call (888) 411-2624.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

MARGATE—If organizers have their way, the Margate Fall Festival by the Bay will set new standards for outdoor festival held in southern New Jersey. For more information, contact Blair Learn at (609) 286-0500.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

NEWARK—The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey is hosting an awards luncheon called "Plum Award" beginning at 9:30 a.m. (973) 972-0288.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

BARKING RIDGE—The New York-New Jersey Minority Purchasing Council presents a MBE GENERAL MEETING AND FINANCE BTECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP, hosted by AT&T beginning at 9 a.m. (212) 582-2334.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

GARDEN CITY—Professional Woman In Construction (PWC) will hold its Autumn Golf Tennis Open, beginning through dinner at the Garden City Country Club. For reservations and information call at 212-687-0610.

A win for businesses in urban areas

WASHINGTON — The National Black Chamber of Commerce, which held its 62nd Annual Convention in July, says business and the cause of creating economic opportunities in urban areas won a big victory with the U.S. Supreme Court decision to dismiss an environmental racism case brought by the residents of Chester County, Pennsylvania against the State of Pennsylvania.

The case was based on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) environmental justice policy, which was issued under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Harry C. Alford, President and CEO of the NBCC, said, "The Supreme Court's order completely vacates the twisted legal principles

EPA has relied on to deny environmental operating permits to businesses located in urban areas and other low-income areas. They are trying to mislead a precious piece of legislation (Civil Rights Act) to further their agenda at our expense. Not only the NAACP labor union and bus manufacturers got together to force student busing have our neighborhoods been so economically threatened. The EPA must rescind this policy immediately and search for a 'win-win' solution."

The NBCC, joined by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce, argued that EPA's new environmental justice policy across the urban economic development and

unlawfully holds businesses located in disadvantaged areas accountable for environmental requirements that exceed current law.

EPA's guidelines and 1984 regulations encourage lawsuits under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act against state and local governments that grant businesses environmental operating permits operating in low income, urban or other disadvantaged areas. Many of the permits must be renewed annually and one frivolous lawsuit, based on EPA's guidelines, would shut down or force businesses to move from those areas.

A growing coalition of governors, mayors and state and local officials has joined the NBCC in calling for the EPA to repeal the guidelines.

Understanding IRA accounts

Dale G. Caldwell

The Roth IRA has generated so much interest I thought that this week I would discuss IRAs and answer some of the most common questions about this type of investment. Let me first hear most frequently asked the following: What is a "traditional" IRA?

A traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) is a unique investment vehicle that enables contributors to make investments (mutual funds, stocks, bonds, etc.) in a tax-deferred manner. The growth is tax deferred. An IRA allows an individual a maximum annual contribution of \$2,000 (as long as they have earned income or alimony of that amount). IRAs allow a married couple to contribute \$4,000 per year (\$2,000 into each spouse's IRA). IRA investment's growth is tax deferred until it is withdrawn (in other words you pay taxes only when you take your money out of the IRA).

Withdrawing money from the IRA before age 59 1/2 will result in a 10% penalty (unless the money is used to pay for higher education or \$10,000 is used to purchase a first home). Married couples making under \$39,999 and single individuals making less than \$24,999 can deduct their contribution from their income for tax purposes (up to \$2,000). Individuals of any income who are not active participants in a company retirement plan can automatically deduct the full \$2,000 from their income for tax purposes. In addition, individuals making between \$25,000 and \$33,000 and married couples making between \$40,000 and \$50,000 can deduct portions of their contributions based on a schedule supplied by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). However, any individual making over \$35,000 can contribute up to \$2,000 into an IRA and any married couple making over \$50,000 can contribute \$4,000 into an IRA. The funds they contribute will be tax deferred, however they will not be able to deduct their contribution from their income for tax purposes. In addition, distributions from a "traditional" IRA must begin before age 70 1/2.

Should I be thinking about an IRA? Everyone should consider investing in an IRA of their choice to increase the amount of savings they will have at retirement. The tax deductible feature (if you qualify) is a tremendous incentive for you to contribute. The tax deductible feature is also very attractive (especially if you are in a higher income bracket). What is a Roth IRA?

The Roth IRA was created by the 1997 tax law. It is unique because it enables individuals and couples who do not qualify for a "traditional" deductible IRA to benefit from a retirement savings tax break. Congress added this tax break to provide an incentive for middle income and some high income individuals and families to increase their retirement savings. Theoretically, this incentive would get people to save more money for retirement and reduce their tax liability. However, the Roth IRA supplements their retirement income. An individual with an income of up to \$100,000 and a married couple with income of up to \$160,000 can contribute up to \$2,000 a year (\$4,000 for married couples) of after tax savings into a Roth IRA. However, the Roth IRA differs from the traditional IRA in the following manner:

1. Earnings on your contributions compound tax free. This is a significant advantage if your IRA has grown a great deal and you will face a high tax bill upon withdrawal. However, this free provision applies only if you keep your money in a Roth IRA for a minimum of five years and you wait until you are 59 1/2 before withdrawing for any purpose, tax and penalty free at any time.

2. You can withdraw any part of your principal (original contribution) for any purpose, tax and penalty free at any time.

3. If you have had your Roth IRA account for at least five years, you can use your principal and the interest it has earned for the purchase of your first home (up to \$10,000).

Unlike the "traditional" IRA, contributions to a Roth IRA can be withdrawn after an individual reaches age 70 1/2 and distributions from the Roth IRA do not have to begin at age 70 1/2.

Opened into an IRA and any married couple making over \$50,000 can contribute \$4,000 into an IRA. The funds they contribute will be tax deferred, however they will not be able to deduct their contribution from their income for tax purposes. In addition, distributions from a "traditional" IRA must begin before age 70 1/2.

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Dale G. Caldwell is a certified management consultant, a former client of the U.S. Department of Justice, and a director of recruiting for Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group.

Celebrities lose bid for casino

DETROIT — In an on-going effort to show his commitment to economic empowerment for blacks in corporate America, Reverend Al Sharpton, President of National Action Network (NAN) joined Don Barden, a Detroit cable television personality, and Steve Wonder and boxer Tommy Hearns in promoting Barden's campaign, an attempt to get state lawmakers to support Detroit casino business deal.

"I was in full support of a black group striving for economic empowerment of our people," said Rev. Sharpton. He continued to say, "It seems to me that Detroit has three hotels and none of them are black-owned, so why shouldn't there be at least one casino that is black-owned."

Detroit plans to build three new casinos within the city limits and it endeavors to add even more steam to the urban renewal project. Despite the efforts of Reverend Sharpton and the support of Jackson, Wonder, and Hearns, Barden's proposal was not chosen as one of the finalists for the new casinos. However, the public can expect to see Rev. Sharpton continue

to make his presence felt in corporate America in the near future as he makes a visit to Dallas, Texas to open the Dallas chapter of the National Action Network.

Rev. Sharpton concluded to say, "I've been a 20 year friend of Michael Jackson's, and I was very proud to see him put up his money to support his people and even though I lost this fight, the war still isn't over."

The National Action Network (NAN) is a civil rights organization geared towards economic justice, political empowerment of the disenfranchised citizens, a fair criminal justice system and a moral agenda of fairness and equity for the 21st century.

Reverend Al Sharpton, Michael Jackson and Steve Wonder made an attempt to stir a business deal to own a Detroit casino.



Reverend Al Sharpton, Michael Jackson and Steve Wonder made an attempt to stir a business deal to own a Detroit casino.

Businessmen want help with 2000 problem

HARRISBURG, Pa. A new national survey reveals business executives are worried that the government should be among the leading institutions to help companies tackle the Year 2000 (Y2K) problem. While computer and software companies were pinpointed as the group most expected to help squash the problem (by 57 percent of respondents), a sizable number of respondents (41 percent) said individual or state government also should provide help.

The "Year 2000" survey was commissioned by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (CED) to gauge emerging companies' preparedness for the millennium bug and identify whom America's growing economy should turn to for help. The survey targeted primary decision makers on the Y2K problem at more than 300 small- to mid-sized companies nationwide.

In the survey, 70 percent of companies said they will chart a course of action to beat the looming deadline. Thirty-seven percent of the national government should assist in this, and 22 percent said state government should be a partner in tackling the problem. Still, only 35 percent were confident government could truly provide this assistance.

Companies showed confidence in banks and utilities to squash the millennium bug, with 57 percent confident banks are "on the money" and 42 percent confident utilities are "plugged in" to the problem.

Experts say industries and governments across the world, increasingly reliant on computers, are threatened by chaos at midnight, December 31, 1999, as computers will crash because their systems are unable to recognize the year 2000.

For example, if a person's business is worried the IRS will lose business records. In addition to concerns about government's approach, survey respondents cited other stress points on the problem. The most overwhelming concern was that business records would be wiped out (57%). Other fears included inaccurate billing resulting in lost income (51%); the disappearance of stock and other assets (42%); and the loss of employee records (41%).

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Business briefs: Selling your business?

Americans are paying the price

The average American's per-capita federal tax bill will reach \$6,031 in 1998, up 3.6 percent from last year's average federal tax bill for fiscal 1998 will range from a low of \$9,469 in Connecticut to a high of \$4,076 in Mississippi. The per-capita tax burden is 44 percent higher than it was in 1992.

Nissan plans to increase minority dealers

Nissan Motor Co. plans to boost minority ownership of dealerships 25 percent by 2002. The Tokyo-based company, which has 1,250 Nissan and Infiniti dealerships in the U.S., says its goal is to increase ownership by minorities and women to 90. It plans to double the amount of dealerships owned by African Americans from 9 to 18.

End Affirmative Action?

According to a recent USA Today poll, blacks and whites disagree sharply over the issue of affirmative action. The poll found 82 percent of blacks saying affirmative action programs should continue, while 52 percent of whites said they should end.

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often want to borrow part of the purchase price—from bank, the seller or both. Notes sold by sellers are almost always subordinated to bank debt—many sellers find this out when final documents are being reviewed. Buyers may appear to have plenty of money to pay cash, but this is an indication of how much they are willing to put at risk. A seller should understand the buyer's proposed balance sheet for the day after the closing. Sellers should call others who have sold to this buyer, and if the names are not willingly provided that's a big red flag. Ignorance is not bliss.

4. No Strategy for Negotiations. If you want to sell your business, you strive to get an offer in writing. It is a key milestone towards the target-but it can come too early. An offer in writing usually asks the seller to accept within two weeks, and it routinely asks the seller to stop talking to other buyers. A seller should not accept an offer before developing a sense of what other buyers might be willing to pay-and this takes time. A seller should not be rushed into signing a letter of intent, and then rushed into terminating talks with other suitors. "It's crucial to strike the right balance between moving too quickly and not moving fast enough," Gabriel emphasizes.

5. Not Ready. You want a price if you are not prepared. An average price is roughly five to six times the annual earnings before interest and taxes (less taxes). But willing to pay more, those willing to pay a premium price, even an irrational price, may come knocking if you have something special to offer—a distribution channel, a market share, a unique product, or something else that will give you a competitive business. To help get that premium price, Gabriel advises, the business should always be ready for sale. That means having a management structure that's not entirely dependent on the owner. Management secures a better price. It also means that you should have professionally audited financial statements, your business plan, and your business in first-class order at all times.

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Local Briefs

NJ Nets star opens recreation center

IRVINGTON — Irvington Mayor Sara Bost and NJ Nets All-Star Chris Gatling will dedicate the new Township of Irvington-Chris Gatling Recreation Center on Thursday, September 3.

The center will restore a full slate of recreational, social and educational programs once held by its predecessor, The Police Athletic League building (PAL). Irvington PAL closed in 1994 due to financial difficulties.

Gatling, who played basketball at the PAL while growing up in Irvington, purchased the building for \$135,000 and promptly leased it back to the township of Irvington. The municipality has since spent about \$350,000 in renovations, preparing for the opening of the center.

Violence authority speaks on safe schools

PLAINFIELD — One of the leading authorities in the United States on violence, Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith, will speak to about 1,000 Plainfield teachers, administrators and support staff today, September 2. Dr. Prothrow-Stith is the assistant dean of Government and Community Programs at the Harvard School of Public Health and the author of *Deadly Consequences*, one of the first books to present a public health perspective on violence.

Dr. Prothrow-Stith will speak at the opening day conference for Plainfield's staff one day before school opens on September 3 for students.

"Dr. Prothrow-Stith will add an important dimension to our efforts begun a year to establish a Safe Schools program throughout the school district," said Dr. Larry Levett, Plainfield's superintendent of schools. The program is an attempt to get out in front of what law enforcement officials were predicting a significant growth in juvenile crime, especially among teens."

Connection-Newark 'quacks' up!

NEWARK — Hundreds of rubber ducks landed in the Reflecting Pool at PSE&G in Newark recently as Connection-Newark and the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark officially announced the City's first annual "Quackening"—A Really Ducky Event.

Modeled after events developed by Great American Duck Races, the official "Quackening" event in Newark was at the Reflecting Pool at PSE&G. The event featured thousands of adopted rubber ducks floating in the pool, hopeful of being plucked out by celebrities and community leaders.

Owners of the plucked ducks will win fabulous prizes including free trips on Continental Airlines, resort stays courtesy of Hilton, tickets to NJPAC, restaurants, the 1999 Soccer World Cup, and more. Jazz music and good food was available for those who attended.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for Newark residents and businesses to connect and promote our great City's history and present its current economic, cul-

tural, recreational, collegiate, transportation, medical and social assets," said Newark Mayor Sharpe James. "It is important that we as citizens participate in this important connection between Newark's downtown and uptown areas and prove that our City is everything it's quacked up to be."

Myles Varley, executive director of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark said, "This event is another example of our community of Newark coming together to work for a common goal."

"Connection-Newark is proud of the partnerships which continue to grow with businesses and community groups throughout the city supporting events such as the Quackening," said Pat Ryan, chair of this non profit organization geared to increasing the quality of life in the city. "Each new initiative, and the collaborations that make them happen, help improve the quality of life in Newark. We hope the Quackening will be a day of fun and laughter for everyone."

Duck Central, located at Con-



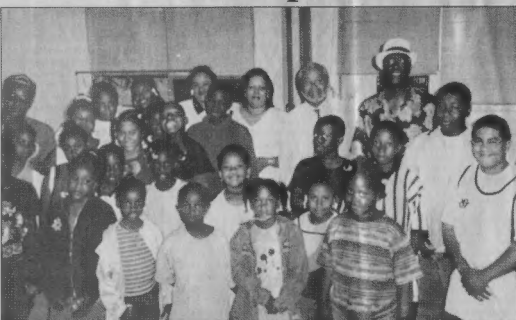
JUST DUCKY: Children from the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Newark were on hand for "The Quackening: an annual fundraiser to support quality of life programs sponsored by Connection-Newark. The event took place at the Reflecting Pool at PSE&G headquarters.

nection-Newark, 744 Broad Street, 33rd Floor, officially opened today, and everyone is invited to stop by to adopt ducks, which begin at \$5. In addition,

there are a wide range of duck adoption opportunities for area businesses. Corporations, organizations, restaurants and local merchants will also have duck

adoption forms for the "Quackening." For additional information on "A Quackening" and duck adoptions, contact Duck Central at (973) 643-1611.

'Famous Amos' promotes literacy at the Leaguers



NEWARK — What do Assemblyman William Payne (D-29th district) and world famous cookie entrepreneur Wally "Famous" Amos share in common? Their concern and desire to improve the quality of life for children. That is why the Assemblyman and Famous Amos joined forces at The Leaguers, a Newark based community center, to promote literacy, the joys of reading and the importance of staying in school to youngsters participating in the Leaguers Summer Camp program.

Using personal stories and life lessons, Wally "Famous" Amos, a national spokesperson for literacy, addressed approximately twenty school age children, staff members and Leaguers Executive Director, Ms. Veronica Ray.

"Reading changes lives, increases self proficiency and thereby self esteem," said Assemblyman Payne. "In an entertaining and interesting presentation, Famous Amos reinforces this message to adults and children around the country. I am honored to have facilitated his visit to the Leaguers to address the children of our community, said Payne."

Throughout the year, Assemblyman Payne hopes to bring positive messages to young people in schools and organizations throughout the 29th district, with the help of presenters that both educate and entertain.

Using personal stories and life lessons, national spokesperson for literacy Wally "Famous" Amos, in back row wearing hat, joined forces with Assemblyman William Payne to promote the joys of reading and the importance of staying in school at the Leaguers Summer Camp program.

THE NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WELCOMES STUDENTS, PARENTS AND STAFF TO THE 1998-1999 SCHOOL YEAR

SCHOOLS OPEN - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1998

NEW SCHOOL
HOURS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOURS
8:25 A.M. - 2:55 P.M.



SECONDARY SCHOOL HOURS
8:15 A.M. - 2:40 P.M.

TO REGISTER FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN A CHILD MUST BE FOUR (4) YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1998.

TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN A CHILD MUST BE FIVE (5) YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1998*

STUDENT REGISTRATION

- PARENTS REGISTERING STUDENTS INTO SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME MUST SHOW THE CHILD'S:
- BIRTH CERTIFICATE (CHILD MUST BE 5 YEARS OLD ON/OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1998)
 - IMMUNIZATION DOCUMENTS
 - PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' PROOF OF RESIDENCY (I.E. CURRENT UTILITY BILL)
 - STUDENTS TRANSFERRING FROM ANOTHER DISTRICT OR FROM ONE NEWARK SCHOOL TO ANOTHER MUST ALSO PROVIDE A COPY OF THEIR TRANSFER RECORDS.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SCHOOL REGISTRATION AND IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS, CONTACT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

- IMMUNIZATION RECORDS MUST INCLUDE SPECIFIC DATES FOR A MINIMUM OF FOUR DOSES OF DIPHTHERIA, TETANUS AND PERTUSSIS VACCINE. ONE OF THE FOUR DOSES MUST HAVE BEEN ADMINISTERED ON OR AFTER THE CHILD'S FOURTH BIRTHDAY.
- IN ADDITION, THE CHILD'S RECORDS SHOULD INCLUDE INFORMATION ON VACCINATION FOR RUBELLA, MUMPS AND A MINIMUM OF THREE DOSES OF ORAL POLIO VACCINE. ONE OF THE THREE DOSES MUST HAVE BEEN ADMINISTERED ON/OR AFTER THE CHILD'S FOURTH BIRTHDAY.
- RECORDS MUST ALSO SHOW DATES FOR MEASLES VACCINATIONS. STUDENTS ENTERING KINDERGARTEN MUST SHOW DATES FOR TWO MEASLES VACCINATIONS AFTER THE CHILD'S FIRST BIRTHDAY.

FREE IMMUNIZATION IS AVAILABLE AT THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH, 110 WILLIAM STREET, NEWARK, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 9 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED BY STATE AND MUNICIPAL LAW. STUDENTS ABSENT WITHOUT A MEDICAL NOTICE MORE THAN 18 DAYS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR WILL NOT BE PROMOTED TO THE NEXT GRADE.

TESTING DATES

DISTRICTWIDE STANDARDIZED TEST
APRIL 20 - 23, 1998

GRADE 11 HSPT
FALL EXAM: OCTOBER 6, 1998 - READING

OCTOBER 7, 1998 - MATH

OCTOBER 8, 1998 - WRITING

MADE-UP EXAM: OCTOBER 13, 14, 15, 1998

SPRING EXAM: APRIL 6, 1999 - READING

APRIL 7, 1999 - MATH

APRIL 8, 1999 - WRITING

MADE-UP EXAM: APRIL 13, 14, 15, 1999

GRADE 8 GEPA (GRADE EIGHT PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENT)

SPRING EXAM: MARCH 9, 10, 11, 1999

MADE-UP EXAM: MARCH 16, 17, 18, 1999

MARKING PERIODS

SEPTEMBER 10 - NOVEMBER 20, 1998

NOVEMBER 23, 1998 - FEBRUARY 5, 1999

FEBRUARY 5 - APRIL 23, 1999

APRIL 26 - JUNE 25, 1999

REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION

DECEMBER 4, 1998

FEBRUARY 19, 1999

MAY 5, 1999

JUNE 29, 1999**

Warning notices regarding students' unsatisfactory progress will be sent home on or about the 25th day of each marking period.

**High School report cards to be mailed.

1998-99 NEWARK SCHOOL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER	7	LABOR DAY
	8	ORIENTATION - 10 MONTH EMPLOYEES
	9	STAR DEVELOPMENT DAY
	10	SCHOOLS OPEN FOR STUDENTS (THURSDAY)
OCTOBER	12	COLUMBIAN DAY OBSERVANCE
	21	STAR DEVELOPMENT DAY
NOVEMBER	2	PUERTO RICO RECOGNITION DAY
	3	ELECTION DAY
	11	VETERAN'S DAY
	12 & 13	TEACHERS' CONVENTION
	26 & 27	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
DECEMBER	24 - 31	WINTER RECESS
1999		
JANUARY	1	NEW YEAR'S DAY
	18	DR. MARTIN L. KING, JR.'S BIRTHDAY
	27	STAR DEVELOPMENT DAY
FEBRUARY	12 - 15	PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND
MARCH	22	STAR DEVELOPMENT DAY
	29 - 31	SPRING RECESS
APRIL	1	SPRING RECESS
	2	GOOD FRIDAY
MAY	31	MEMORIAL DAY
JUNE	29	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

WHENEVER IT IS NECESSARY TO CLOSE SCHOOLS OR TO DELAY THE OPENING OF SCHOOLS DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS OR OTHER EMERGENCIES WHICH MAY DEVELOP OVERNIGHT, ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CLOSINGS OR DELAYED OPENINGS SHALL BE MADE OVER THE RADIO STATIONS LISTED BELOW BETWEEN 7:00 A.M. AND 9:00 A.M.

WOR - 710 AM
WINS - 1010 AM
WBLS - 101.5 FM
WADO - 1280 AM
(SPANISH LANGUAGE STATION)

WCBS - 880 AM
WBLS - 107.5 FM
KISS - 98.7 FM

CLIP AND SAVE! CLIP AND SAVE! CLIP AND SAVE! CLIP AND SAVE!

*OR MUST HAVE ATTENDED A NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOL PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASS OR STATE-LICENSED EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

LifeStyles

AAA shows how to combat car repair rip-off

FLORHAM PARK — Your car is making strange noises and you're afraid to drive any further without having it checked by a mechanic. But, you're not any place near your local garage.

The vast majority of auto repair shops want to earn your confidence and business for the long term," said Rick Town, assistant vice president of automotive services for the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club.

"Unfortunately, there are a few that want your confidence only to take advantage of your wallet."

How can you determine who the "bad guys" are and what they're up to before you risk repair at an unfamiliar shop? AAA, along with consumer advocates, law enforcement officials and other automotive experts have identified the most common and profitable scams.

Intentional battery overload. Determining the condition of a battery requires a road test to simulate the power requirements of a start on a cold morning. A technician can, by manipulating the testing equipment, put too much load on a battery causing it to fail right before your eyes.

Bogus bearing repacking. Cleaning the old lubricant out of front-wheel bearings every two to three years was common maintenance on rear-wheel drive cars. Wheel bearings on the vast majority of front-wheel drive cars are sealed with lifetime lubrication so repacking isn't necessary.

Suspect suspension joints. The

wrong test can fail a perfectly sound ball joint. Suspension design determines how to test a joint for wear, following a procedure for a design that's different than your car's can give a false reading.

Impossible wheel adjustments. Many newer cars require fewer adjustments for wheel alignment. For example, camber, caster and toe settings can be measured on all cars, but only toe can be adjusted. In flat-fee alignment specials, the technician will measure all three settings. If the flat fee, however, includes adjusting all three, you're paying for a service you don't need.

Mysterious muffler holes. Some mufflers have a small hole to let condensed escape. A technician who cites this hole as cause for a new muffler, is draining your wallet.

Failed emissions tests. A catalytic converter is the most visible emission control device on a car, so it can be an easy sale to an anxious owner. But, an oxygen sensor, a less expensive part, could be the culprit even if the more expensive part failed, you may not have to pay to replace it. A government-mandated five-year/50,000 mile warranty covers emissions-related parts on all cars.

Unreliable computer tests. Computerized diagnoses produce a printed report that can appear credible. But the diagnosis is only as good as the technician controlling the computer. Some tests such as ignition timing can be influenced.

Costly rebuilt parts. When you need repairs, you often have the choice between new and rebuilt parts. Many rebuilt parts may have been rebuilt by the manufacturer making them "as good as new." And they cost 35 to 50 percent less than a new part. An unscrupulous shop may not give you a choice or sell you a new part, but actually install a rebuilt one.

Inflated flat-rate pricing. Most shops determine prices by consulting "flat-rate manuals," which list times for various repair jobs. Some manuals list a two times for repairs: stand-alone or a short time for the job done in conjunction with another. A shop can inflate repair bills by using stand-alone repair times for jobs that were combined with another.

How can you protect yourself against tip-offs? "First, know your car and its maintenance schedule," said AAA's Town. "Most maintenance intervals are longer than they used to be. If you're not sure about a repair, many automakers offer a toll-free customer assistance line."

"Second, get a second opinion. Be suspicious when a technician says he has discovered a dangerous condition. If you've been driving your car and it seems fine, you should be able to drive to a second shop for a second opinion."

For a free copy of AAA's new brochure, "Taking the Scare Out of Auto Repair," send a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to: AAA Public Relations, 1 Hanover Road, Florham Park, NJ 07932.



Keep a child's car seat safe

WASHINGTON — Ninety-nine percent of parents with children under age one say they have heard about the risks air bags pose to children, according to a new national survey. Although most have heard and are heeding the warnings, alarmingly, 11 percent of parents who regularly transport an infant in a vehicle equipped with a passenger air bag continue to place babies in the front seat — amounting to as many as 175,000 babies at serious risk.

The research reveals that these parents tend to be younger, have little formal education, and live in the South. And parents who don't wear their seat belts are more likely to wear their child's seat belt.

"Infants should NEVER, ever ride in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag," said Janet Dewey, Executive Director of the Air Bag & Seat Belt Safety Campaign. "An air bag comes out of the dashboard in the blink of an eye with great force. Riding up front in an infant seat, a baby's fragile head and neck are always too close to the deploying air bag in the event of a crash."

While the overall rate of child deaths from air bags has declined by 50 percent and there are encouraging signs that more drivers are properly restraining children in the back seat, too many children are continuing to die.

Infants under one year of age account for roughly one in 12 of the children at risk, yet they account for about 1 in 5 of the child deaths. To date, of the 63 children who died in crashes involving air bags, 13 were babies riding in infant seats. Investigations also indicate that almost all of these infants were five months old or younger.

"We think some parents believe the risk of not seeing a child is greater than the risk of injury in a crash. That's just wrong," said Joseph R. Zanga, M.D., FAAP, American Academy of Pediatrics President. "Parents must understand that automobile crashes are the leading cause of death to our children. The safest way to pre-adolescent children to ride — including babies — is properly restrained in the back seat."

The research also shows that parents are more likely to follow proper safety procedures as their children age. Fully one quarter of parents incorrectly place infants ages one to three months old in the front seat, while only eight percent put one to 12-month-



old infants in the front seat.

The risks air bags pose to children are entirely eliminated when children ride properly restrained in the back seat. Crashes are the leading cause of death to children. With

or without an air bag, children are safer in the back. Studies show that even in vehicles without air bags, the death rate to children drops by one third when kids are properly restrained in the back seat.

The research also shows that 20 percent of parents with and without air bag equipped vehicles report not properly restraining their infants. Since crashes are the leading cause of death to children and with or without an air bag the back is the safest place for children to ride — nearly 800,000 children are at increased risk in a crash.

The Campaign, NHTSA and others are stepping up their outreach to new and expectant parents by providing free materials through national organizations that can best reach their target audiences. For more information on air bag safety, visit the Campaign's web site (www.nhtsa.org/airbag.html) or call (202) 625-2570.

Air Bag safety tips

Infants should NEVER, ever ride in front of a passenger air bag.

Babies should ride in rear-facing seats in the back seat until at least age one AND at least 22 pounds.

The risks air bags pose to children are entirely eliminated when children ride properly restrained in the back seat.

Children 12 and younger should ride in correct age- and size-appropriate safety seats or seat belts in the back seat.

Check your vehicle's owner's manual and the instructions provided with your child safety seat for correct use information.

Auto leasing: You should have done it much sooner

By Roosevelt Gist, Jr.

The auto lease is the most flexible auto financing tool available. When properly explained and fully understood, it will become your auto financing choice. Auto leasing is gaining popularity with new and used cars for one reason, the increasing price of cars.

If you would abandon your intense desire for immediate ownership, you would be leasing now. The major difference between leasing and buying is the timing of ownership. When you buy, ownership is assumed at the signing of the contract. However, technically, you do not own the car until you completely pay off your auto loan. When you lease, ownership occurs at the end of the lease if you desire.

If you keep a vehicle for six years or more, do not lease. However, if you trade cars with a loan balance, consider leasing. There are some very important facts that you must know, understand and accept before you enter into the lease agreement. Finding these out later will sour your leasing experience. I will touch on some of them. The space provided for this column does not allow me to go into all of them.

There are two types of leases, closed end and open end. With the closed end lease you may return the car to the lessor (the company that owns the vehicle) at the end of the term and "walk away." If you have not damaged the car, experienced any excess wear and tear and did not exceed the mileage allowance you will have no financial obligation to the lessor. And, made all your lease payments. Because the lessor is taking most of the risk your monthly payments will be higher.

The closed end lease is the most popular and provides the most protection. With the open end lease your

monthly payments are lower but your end of lease obligations are determined by the fair market value of the car at that time. The residual value (projected future value of the car) set by the lessor at closed inception may far exceed the fair market value of your car at lease end and you will have to pay the difference.

When you lease, you are bound by the mileage allowance set at the lease signing. If you exceed it you pay a penalty. Pay a little more and match the mileage to your real driving habits. Excessive wear and tear is an arbitrary determination and unless you just totally destroy the car, this should not be an area of concern.

Be sure you have the proper terms and amount of insurance. Your lessor will give you the limits. Get GAP coverage so that you are protected if your car is stolen and not recovered or totaled and your primary coverage does not pay the full replacement value.

Make the term of the lease match how often you trade out of cars. Don't go for longer lease terms because the monthly payments are lower. Early termination of a lease is very costly. Death before your lease term is up falls under early termination. Questions to ask the salesperson: Please explain early termination! What is your excess mileage rate and penalty? Is this a keep all profits above the residual value? Is GAP coverage included in the lease?

Roosevelt Gist, Jr. is the President/Owner of AutoNetwork, and has recently created an African-American buyers guide on the Internet. For more information visit www.aacbg.com.

Dealing with ... "real" anger

By Colonel Peter J. O'Hagan, USMCR, Ret. and Colonel Carl A. Williams

Aggressive driving is a problem that faces most drivers every day. According to statistics, 40 percent of drivers surveyed feel that aggressive driving is the greatest hazard they face on the road.

Contributing to the problem is the large number of cars on the highways. New Jersey is one of the most densely populated states. Highly congested areas can promote stress and frustration. People frequently use their cars as an outlet, feeling that there are no real consequences. But unfortunately, many times the consequences are crashes that can lead to injuries or

traffic and honking horns.

There are ways to deal with aggressive drivers without putting them or causing yourself harm. Here are some helpful tips. Following these simple steps can save lives and prevent motor vehicle crashes on our roadways.

- Make every attempt to get out of their way
- Do not challenge them
- Avoid eye contact
- Do not make or return gestures

- Do not block the passing lane, and avoid switching lanes without signaling
- Do not tailgate
- Allow plenty of time for your trip

Stay away from drivers behaving erratically

New Jersey motorists can also help by recording the license number of the aggressive driver and reporting them to a toll free number (888) 723-7623. This number has been put in place to combat aggressive

and other unsafe drivers. The call goes to a central State Police operator who then routes the call to a municipality near where the call is coming from.

There are serious penalties for aggressive driving in New Jersey. If you receive a ticket for tailgating, or if you are found guilty of reckless driving, you will receive five points on your motor vehicle driving records. You may also be found guilty of careless driving and receive an additional two points.

Motorists must take the necessary steps to prevent themselves from becoming victims of aggressive driving. A 3,000 pound vehicle in the hands of a hostile driver is a lethal weapon.

Colonel Peter J. O'Hagan, USMCR, Ret., is director of the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety. Colonel Carl A. Williams is superintendent of the New Jersey State Police.

Religion Calendar

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

NEWARK—A special divine healing service will be held at Gethsemane P.B. Church beginning at 7:30 p.m. This Special Healing will be held through September 6. (973) 434-3466

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

BROOKLYN—Muhammad's Mosque of Islam will host its Annual Women's Day Program "The Role of Black Women in the New Millennium." This program begins at 2 p.m. (718) 919-7458.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

KANSAS CITY—The National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. will hold its Presidential education banquet through September 11. For detailed info, call (813) 328-1157.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

PATERSON—The New Christian Tabernacle Church of God in Christ presents their "Silver Anniversary Banquet" to be held at the Paterston Brownstone House beginning at noon. (973-442-1978)

LAKEWOOD—Sisters of Mercy will sponsor a Mercy AIDS Ride beginning at Georgian Court College in celebration of their 125th anniversary (1888) 637-2914

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

PATERSON—The New Christian Tabernacle Church of God in Christ invites the public to celebrate Pentecost Harvest 1998, Holy Ghost Revival through September 20 beginning 7:30 p.m. (973) 742-1978

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

HACKENSACK—Men of the Universal Hagers Shipley Church presents the "Gospel Hikes" and many more beginning at 3 p.m. at the UHSO Temple. For more info call (201) 816-1863 or (201) 343-6132

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

PLAINFIELD—Faith Tabernacle Church presents their 1st annual men's conference beginning 7:30 p.m. This conference will be held through October 31. (908) 757-5359

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

ATLANTA—Join us for the third annual Gospel Heritage Gala Concert & Awards. For detailed information, call (615) 376-6666

HAWTHORNE—The Northern NJ Sunday School Association will sponsor the 38th Annual Christian Education Convention through the 24th at the Hawthorne Gospel Church. For more information, call (800) 363-4410.

An urgent call for help

WAYNE—Father's House of Compassion was established in January 1995. The vision God has given Maria Ann Micchelli, head of this agency comes from Matthew 23:34-6 & Isaiah 58:1-2. Based on those scriptures she took her own family home and turned it into a family of help.

This ministry is a referral agency networking with churches, missions and all kinds of organizations providing them with food, clothing, furniture, toys, handymen work, jobs, apartments, help with utilities and as God leads this ministry will also help the homeless get back on their feet.

So far this ministry has supplied clothing, shoes, toys, bikes to the following churches and organizations: The Grace Word of God Church, Newark, Maranatha Christian Revival Center, Passaic, Jackson Chapel from Little Rock, Good Shepherd Mission, Paterson, Harvest Time International, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Martin Luther King School in Passaic, Bible with Love Fellowship, Paterson.

This ministry has also sent clothes and shoes to different countries through referrals.

The organization needs your prayers and support. As of July 21 this home was put up for a sheriff sale in order to keep Father's House of Compassion open we need to buy back this home. We need donations to keep this home so your response is crucial.

Thank you in advance for your prayers and donations toward this great work of God. All donations are tax deductible. Enclosed, please find a self-addressed envelope for your donation. Please make checks out to "Father's House of Compassion, P.O. Box 295, Wayne, NJ 07474-0294. For more information please call (973) 694-1929.

Religion Minister takes a stand for the community

By Jean H. Pierre

In a time where some of our values and morals have been tarnished from lack of faith or spirituality, one person sees it as a mission to bring it back head strong.

Some feel he is a hero. Others see him as a magician. But whatever you do, don't call him uncommitted.

Bishop Alfred Johnson, head of the United Methodist Church, feels it's time that everyone came back to god. "Having more people give their lives to Christ is the only way to survive in this hectic world," said Johnson. With 600 churches in the nation's urban and rural areas, including 40 in New Jersey, the Bishop thinks all could be done to spread the message. "Becoming disciples of Jesus allows us to one with one another. What perfect way to deliver healing," said Johnson.

Bishop Johnson became the head of the church in 1996, after years of studying and teaching in his home state of Pennsylvania. He received a B.A. in arts at Albright College in 1972. Then, a master of theology degree from Boston University in 1975. With all his successes, including his continued involvement with the community, the church made the right choice in selecting him as head bishop. "It's an honor to help the people of the congregation," said Johnson. "I see big things for this church."

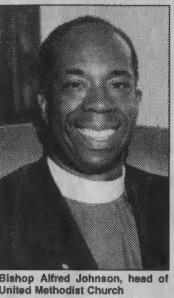
Last Year, Bishop Johnson was awarded the coveted Trailblazer Award by the Black Graduates Association. It was given to him for being the first African-American graduate of Wesley to be elected Bishop. With all his activities in the church, Bishop keeps himself busy with other movements outside as well. He is on the Board of Trustees

at three learning institutions in the Philadelphia region, and he is a member of the National Council of Churches.

Born and raised in Philadelphia (The city of brotherly love), Bishop's main goal is to get more youth back into worship. "I feel some of the other religions, including ours, have turned their back on kids. I think now with growing rate of our youth who simply cannot attend, the vision and the future is to help them," says Johnson. "I like what the Muslims are doing by recruiting. That's something I would like to do."

His wife Lois G. Johnson head of the English Department at Delaware Technical and Community, has given the Bishop some pointers as well.

"She a big inspiration to me. I am glad I have her," says Johnson, and you know what, the church is glad to have you.



Bishop Alfred Johnson, head of United Methodist Church

American Bible Society plans to launch 'Year of the Bible' in 1999

NEW YORK—More than 90% of all Americans own at least one Bible, but surveys indicate less than half of them actually read it. To try to change that, the American Bible Society (ABS) has launched a nationwide daily reading program based on its easy-to-understand Contemporary English Version of the Bible.

Reading Scripture just Five Minutes a Day (the theme of the "1999 Year of the Bible" program), a person will complete the entire New Testament in one year.

While "1999 Year of the Bible" actually begins next January 1, individuals and churches can prepare for it now by planning their own program based on materials provided by ABS.

The materials include specially printed "Year of the Bible" New Testaments, which include the day-by-day reading guide for 1999, as well as videos and lapel pins for a nominal fee. Free materials include bibles, bookmarks and bumper stickers, and special kits for pastors.

The program is endorsed by several denominations and ministries, including the AMT Zion Church, Campus Crusade for Christ International, Church of God (Anderson, Indiana), General Council of the Assemblies of God, International Lutheran Laymen's League, Luis Palau Evangelistic Association, Lutheran Hour Ministries, the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, Missionary Church of America, Wesleyan Church, The Bible, the Wesleyan Church, and the Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. In addition, a number of churches in

Detroit, Pittsburgh, Springfield, Missouri, Cincinnati, San Antonio, Baltimore and other parts of the United States will participate.

Newspapers in several of these cities will be publishing the daily Scripture reading guide during 1999 as a public service to their communities.

"The '1999 Year of the Bible' program is a great way to reacquaint our contemporary culture with the Bible," says the Rev. Ronald W. Mixer, manager of the program.

"Churches joining together across denominational lines to take the Bible into their communities demonstrates the desire of the church world to make a positive statement to the rest of our society about the love that God gives. The '1999 Year of the Bible' program makes such cooperation possible," said and audiotaped and made available for sale at modest cost via Christ Church's on-line bookstore (www.christchurchnj.org) or at Christ Church itself.

"Video and audio tapes are an ideal way for Family Matters Message Series attendees to

practice and reinforce the wisdom contained within the Series. And, of course, for those who miss one of the Messages in the Series, or those who simply cannot attend, the video and audio tapes allow us to benefit from the Series in the comfort and privacy of your own home or car, or anywhere, for that matter, with the use of a Walkman-type of tape player," noted Rev. Ireland.

The Family Matters Message Series will be delivered as part of Christ Church's contemporary Sunday celebrations beginning at 8 a.m. and 12 noon from September 6th through October 11th. Admission is open to all at no charge and attendees are invited to "come as you are."

Dress is casual, small children are cared for during the Family Matters Series in Christ Church's fine nursery, staffed by dedicated workers with a "children's church" running continuously with adult church.

Contemporary music-professional, celebrative, diverse, passionate, and uplifting—is an integral part of the Sunday celebration at Christ Church.

Founded in 1816 and headquartered in New York, the American Bible Society is a leading publisher, translator and distributor of Scriptures in the United States, serving Christian churches nationwide. For more information, contact Christ Church at (973) 783-1010. Fax number is (973) 783-0818. Christ Church is located at Church Street & Trinity Place, Montclair, NJ 07042. The Christ Church Web site address is www.christchurchnj.org.

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Revelation Empowering black America

MEMPHIS—"We're making real progress toward empowering black America. Let's put it this way. We're not going to wait on the millennium. We're going to make things happen now!"

That's the promise of the two African-American church leaders who head the empowerment efforts of Revelation Corporation, the for-profit economic cooperative headed by five black churches in Washington, D.C. on January 15, 1996, the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King.

By way of summing up the corporation's achievements in the last two and a half years, Dr. Bennett W. Smith, Revelation president, and Bishop William H. Graves, chairman of the Revelation board, cited several areas in which measurable progress has been achieved.

"Frankly, a lot of our members have spent much of their lives on the outside of opportunity. We're bringing them inside," explained Dr. Smith. "And the best thing about it," added Bishop Graves, "is that this is no second class citizenship out-of-pocket money dues, or front. There may be start-up expenses in some cases. But these are deducted from the credit line. Everybody gets a credit line to start with."

The Revelation/Norwest Homeownership Program: Revelation's formation of a partnership last year with Norwest Mortgage Company, the nation's Number One lender in the mortgage industry, to minorities, has accelerated the corporation's grand design of increasing first-time homeownership in the inner city and the inner city community. A good example of the Revelation/Norwest program at work is the burgeoning St. Elmo subdivision in the inner city of Memphis. C.M.E. Church in Revelation's home city of Memphis. Some 300

handsome detached dwellings have been constructed there and sold to first-time buyers.

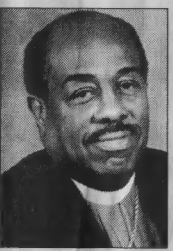
The Revelation/Sedgwick Protection Program for African-American Churches: Another new Revelation partnership is with the Sedgwick Group, a globally famous organization which has its North American headquarters in Memphis and which will offer the most-up-to-date and affordable protection available against damage or liabilities for ministers, churches, and church properties.

The Revelation/Aegon Health Insurance Program: During the last year Revelation has also formed a partnership with Aegon Special Markets Group, Inc., of Frazier, Pennsylvania, to develop and make available easily affordable forms of supplemental health and life insurance for Revelation members.

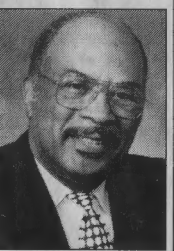
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Bishop William Graves, Chairman of the Revelation board



Dr. Bennett W. Smith, Revelation President

Formula: The most unique aspect of Revelation—is its profit-sharing program, whereby a portion of the corporation's net proceeds from commercial sales are allocated to its member churches—a first being realized in 1998, the first full year of Revelation operations, when thousands of checks were cut to participating institutions and individuals.

The Revelation rule-of-thumb for distribution of its net proceeds is: 30 percent back to the member church, 70 percent to the corporation's National Development Fund, which in years to come will provide an additional basis of support for first-time homebuyers, on a massive scale.

The Revelation Outreach Program: During the two and a half years of its existence, Revelation has owned exclusively by its founding churches and individuals—has built bridges and formed relationships with other organizations which participate in Revelation programs on a volume scale. Among these are Liberty University (Dr. Jerry Falwell) of Lynchburg, Virginia. The beneficiaries of Revelation proceeds also include various charitable health associations and several colleges.

The founding Revelation churches are the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., the Progressive National Baptist Convention, the National Baptist Convention of America, and AME Zion. "We're not only a big family," said Bishop Graves, who pointed out that new Revelation members can earmark churches and institutions for a share of the net proceeds of transactions.

"Where else can you not only enjoy a product, but help distribute the profits from its sale? As far as I can tell, we're unique in that respect," added Dr. Smith.

Formula: The most unique aspect of Revelation—is its profit-sharing program, whereby a portion of the corporation's net proceeds from commercial sales are allocated to its member churches—a first being realized in 1998, the first full year of Revelation operations, when thousands of checks were cut to participating institutions and individuals.

The Revelation rule-of-thumb for distribution of its net proceeds is: 30 percent back to the member church, 70 percent to the corporation's National Development Fund, which in years to come will provide an additional basis of support for first-time homebuyers, on a massive scale.

The Revelation Outreach Program: During the two and a half years of its existence, Revelation has owned exclusively by its founding churches and individuals—has built bridges and formed relationships with other organizations which participate in Revelation programs on a volume scale. Among these are Liberty University (Dr. Jerry Falwell) of Lynchburg, Virginia. The beneficiaries of Revelation proceeds also include various charitable health associations and several colleges.

The founding Revelation churches are the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., the Progressive National Baptist Convention, the National Baptist Convention of America, and AME Zion. "We're not only a big family," said Bishop Graves, who pointed out that new Revelation members can earmark churches and institutions for a share of the net proceeds of transactions.

"Where else can you not only enjoy a product, but help distribute the profits from its sale? As far as I can tell, we're unique in that respect," added Dr. Smith.

Get rid of your excess baggage

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"Wherever you go, there you are." —Modern axiom

"As someone a different person enters than the one who left in the morning." —Yonbu Proverb

All of us carry baggage with us. Baggage is the popular term used to denote our thought patterns, belief systems, attitudes and habitual responses to life. No matter where we carry this baggage with us.

However, many of us are not aware of the heavy psychological burdens and emotional loads we carry. Living in an insane, dysfunctional and hostile environment has had a devastating impact on us. We have been forced to adapt in order to survive the rigors of living in a society that denigrates people of African descent. The traumatic psycho-social impact of American slavery and apartheid has added excess baggage that is grievous to bear for Africans in America.

We also carry the effects of our upbringing, socialization and home environment. If we grew up in an abusive, psychologically or emotionally dysfunctional home, it has impacted us, whether we choose to acknowledge it or not. All of us were conditioned to believe the world operates in a certain way. If we heard or were taught the world is a "dog-eat-dog" situation, in order to survive, we must adopt a competitive, suspicious, and cynical perspective, expectations, values and behavior accordingly. Perceiving the world in such a way causes us to remain tense and fearful, and to fight against it.

Africans throughout the diaspora are constantly assailed by white supremacy. We are told in countless ways that the white man is the norm and we are made to feel less intelligent, less lively and less competent. When we internalize and believe these messages, we deprecate ourselves. We don't fully assert ourselves or completely develop and express our innate gifts, abilities and talents. We are made to believe all brothers are dogs, they will relate to them accordingly, even though the evidence does not support this view. We are made to believe that we are less intelligent, less lively and less competent. When we internalize and believe these messages, we deprecate ourselves. We don't fully assert ourselves or completely develop and express our innate gifts, abilities and talents. We are made to believe all brothers are dogs, they will relate to them accordingly, even though the evidence does not support this view. We are made to believe that we are less intelligent, less lively and less competent. When we internalize and believe these messages, we deprecate ourselves. We don't fully assert ourselves or completely develop and express our innate gifts, abilities and talents. We are made to believe all brothers are dogs, they will relate to them accordingly, even though the evidence does not support this view.

We've all heard the saying "We carry our beliefs and worldview with us. We tend to look at the world in a way that re-affirms our belief system even when the facts don't confirm what we believe. People who do this suffer from what I call psychoclerosis, a closed or blocked mind. By not being open to new ideas, new ways of looking at the world or interpreting and experiencing life, our baggage becomes heavier. We are made to believe the same, but psychologically we are more burdened by our closed mindsets. When we return in the evening with the same attitudes and ways of looking at the world that we had in the morning, we are worse off, more tense, upset, angry and frustrated."

Is there a solution? Yes. The Christian Bible offers an unique yet practical way to deal with the situation. The Gospel accounts clearly state that Joshua (the man whose name was Latinized to Jesus) told those who heard him, "Repent, the Kingdom of God is at hand." Horin lies, the solution is the true meaning of the Gospel. His message was not about religion or churchianity. The word "repent" in the Greek translation means: You can see it in parables. Not the root word in as in parables. Not a means mind. The prefix meta means to change, to transform. The word Metanoia means to change your mind. It means to take a conscious, thorough and on-going mental transformation. It means to change the way you think, what you think about, your perspective, expectations and how you see yourself, your neighbor and the world. It means to let go your cognitive process, perspective and behavior, you experience empowerment by actualizing your innate potential and the process starts inner peace, harmony and wholeness. When you master your mind (conscious, subconscious and ego), you master the world. When you master the world, you master life. When you master life, you master power. You will experience bliss, fulfillment and accomplishment. However you can't do that while you are in a state of mental clutter and perspective and lifestyles propagated by Hollywood and Madison Avenue!

When you are mindful of your thoughts, your mental images, your expectations, what you think is or is not possible and you know you have input into the quality, tone and nature of your life environment, you are on the road to self-mastery. Self-mastery means you have the power to make your life a leaver or a hell. If your consciousness is of peace and empowerment, no matter where you go, there you are.

Send your religion info to: City News, P.O. Box 97
Plainfield, N.J. 07061
or fax to (908) 753-1036

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

BELLVILLE—The Women's Health Center at Clara Maass Hospital will sponsor a 10-week program called "Building Better Bones." For information, call 973-450-2883.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

EDISON—The 78th Division will organize a 5K Race/Walk and One-Mile Fun Run. Call 1-800-575-9073.

BELMAR—The Greater New Jersey Chapter of Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, Inc. is sponsoring its 6th annual 5K Pace Setters Walk. (732) 656-1444.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

JERSEY CITY—The Jersey City Medical Center is holding a Breast Cancer Support Group beginning at 6:00 p.m. (201) 946-6459.

HeartBeat

Can vaccinations really be trusted?

By Minister Abdul Alim Muhammad, M.D.

Should you trust the vaccinators — those doctors, nurses, public health officials and politicians who recommend that you and your family be vaccinated?

This question of trust looms large in the minds of many people, especially those historically disadvantaged minority groups in America, who have been the victims of deceitful and wicked plots.

Of course, we cannot forget the Tuskegee Experiment, one of the most infamous incidents in the history between Blacks and Whites. For 40 years, from 1932 until 1972, an agency of the U.S. government, now known as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), allowed unsuspecting Black men infected with syphilis to spread

the infection to loved ones and deliberately withheld effective treatment from them.

This callous disregard for the life and rights of blacks makes it very difficult for our people to have faith and confidence in the motives of the government and the medical establishment in general. It is this lack of trust that causes many of our people to hesitate to fully put themselves — even if they have access to medical treatment — in their hands.

Anyone who would counsel our people to trust such a government and/or medical establishment is either 100 percent deceived or perhaps "in" on the plot. After all, the Tuskegee Experiment could have never been carried out successfully without the cooperation of black nurses and doctors and other well-respected members of the black community. It was not so much that the poor and largely uneducated participants trusted in the White

medical establishment, but that they trusted their own doctors and nurses.

Likewise today, many black health officials, some of them in the upper echelons of authority at the CDC may not be aware of the underlying motives and content of wide-spread vaccination programs.

And only the most glib of us believe that those who showed little concern for our health in the past are now interested when it comes to vaccinations.

Yet, parents are forced to have their children vaccinated in order to secure a place in day care, in public schools or even summer camp. Welfare recipients are being coerced into having their children vaccinated in order to continue to receive welfare benefits. College students are having their financial aid held back unless they submit to vaccinations. Meanwhile, military personnel are not allowed to serve and in some

instances, are threatened with Court Marshall if they do not receive untested experimental vaccines before they are deployed into far corners of the world.

Recently, we found out that developments in vaccine technology allow them to be placed in staple food items such as potatoes or bananas. Now we are not even sure whether we eat food that is laced with some vaccine. And there are real examples of this. Officials in the Philippines discovered that donated medicines from the World Health Organization (WHO) also contained unmentioned vaccines — not against some dread disease, but against the hormone of pregnancy. A woman who is given such a vaccine develops antibodies against her own fetus so that if she conceives and becomes pregnant, the fetus is unable to attach itself to the uterine wall and the pregnancy ends in a spontaneous abortion or miscarriage.

Over the last 18 months, the Ministry of Health and Human Services of the Nation of Islam has undertaken a research project on the subject of vaccinations. We have compiled information and data from primary scientific sources, health experts, independent researchers, books, articles and other data sources. We have interviewed scores of people and convened panels to discuss those issues so that we may be able to make specific recommendations. Look out for more articles on the subject. In addition, a book that will be helpful to parents wondering about vaccinations, is in preparation and is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

Dr. Muhammad is head of the Abundant Life Clinic in Washington, D.C.

The spiritual road to conquering HIV

RAHWAY — In celebration of the month of September as Minority Health Month, the Redeeming Care Center, Inc. of Rahway and the National Council on Negro Women — Rahway section, will sponsor a Health Fair and Bazaar at the Second Baptist Church in Rahway on Saturday, September 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The theme of the fair is "Where do we go from here? Preparing the church body to meet the challenges of HIV Epidemic in the Millennium."

The Redeeming Care Center is a committee of volunteers associated with the Second Baptist Church who are concerned about those infected or affected by the HIV virus. Eventually the center plans to purchase a residence in the Union County area to assist those in need of services.

The event will feature the following services: blood pressure screening, diabetes information, drug, cancer and heart printed materials and HIV information.

The outreach of the Center is to the whole community with particular emphasis on churches. With the dramatic increase in the incidence on HIV in the black sector of the population, the time has come to tap into

the greatest resources in the black community — the church. At a recent conference in Washington, D.C. Surgeon General Davis Thacker stated, "We need the church to help us deal with the prejudice and the bias that we face as we're trying to fight this epidemic."

The challenge of the Redeeming Care Center is to reach those sitting in the church who wish to actively live their religious convictions, but, because of fear and/or lack of knowledge about the virus, are not doing so. We know there are people sitting in the pews who are either suffering from the physical and spiritual ravages of this illness or are caring for a family member or a friend with the disease," said Center spokesperson Magdalene S. Nichols. "In the same pew or the next row, someone else is thinking about the parable of the 'Good Samaritan' and has a strong desire to heed the words of the scriptures which states, 'Faith without works is dead' (James 3:20)."

Through speakers, educational materials and other HIV resources, we hope to chip away at the walls that separate these two individuals and bring them together in an atmosphere of compassion, hope, faith and love.

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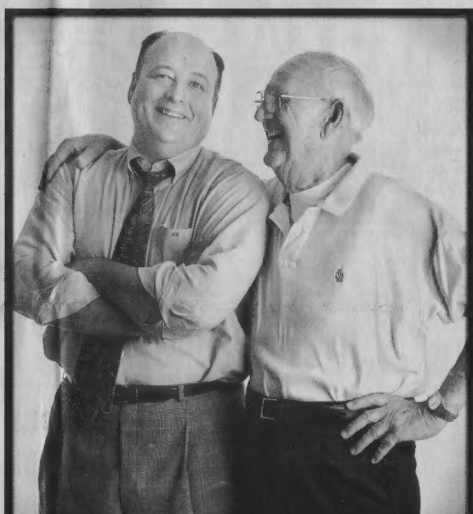
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Jack Rossi with his father-in-law, Vincent Lewis
Basking Ridge, NJ

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FATHER-IN-LAW, VINCENT LEWIS,
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weight. Until I had that burning in my chest, I thought heart problems only happened to the next guy. Since then, my time is more valuable to me. As for the care at Muhlenberg, from the ambulance to the ER, to cardiac rehabilitation, everything was extraordinary."

"I have to admit, my wife's a little concerned that her father and her husband are in cardiac rehabilitation together. All of a sudden we've both gotten health religion. We're on diets; we've stopped smoking; we're losing



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Wednesday

City News

September 2 - September 8, 1998

Billboard

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

WAYNE—William Peterson College will host the Midway Artist Series at the Shea Center beginning at 12:30 p.m. (973) 720-2966

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

MONTCLAIR—The Montclair Art Museum will host the works of African-American artist William H. Johnson beginning at 3 p.m. (973) 746-9118

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

NEW YORK—Jazz at the Lincoln Center will present pianist and jazz legend Hank Jones in the opening of its 1998-99 JAZZ JAM series, "Hank Jones Meets Hank Jones," in Aldo Trionfo Hall. The concert will feature a slew of jazz artists. For more information contact the Lincoln Center.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

NEW BRUNSWICK—George Street Play House will present the play of Broadway hit *After Play* through Sunday. Call (973) 593-0189 for time.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

NEWARK—Actor and stand-up comedian George Carlin will perform at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAAC), with special guest Dennis Blair, beginning at 7:30 p.m. (973) 297-5638.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Montclair State University will present Remembrance Booth, a play at the Studio Theatre, beginning at 2 p.m. (973) 655-4333

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

NEWARK—Rutgers University will host a conference on inner cities called Arts Transforming the Urban Environment. Call (973) 953-5119 for more information.

How Wynton Marsalis swings

NEW YORK — "You have to strain to propel some blues out of a horn because the blues reconciles opposites. You put some things together right on top of something ugly. Take something from the where, hour and put it right next to something from the church. That's the blues just like life." — Wynton Marsalis

Jazz confronts, resolves and synthesizes seeming opposites; tradition and innovation, secular and sacred, individuality and community, particularism and universalism. European, African, ancient and modern, technological and humanistic, masculine and feminine. In *Sweet Swing Blues On The Road*, Pulitzer Prize winner and artistic director of New York's Jazz at the Lincoln Center Wynton Marsalis and award winning photographer and filmmaker Frank Stewart demonstrate, through thoughtful words and engaging photographs, how a portrait of musical artists as young men can illuminate, during the late 20th century, these contrasting tendencies in America. While the pioneering trumpeter Marsalis lets loose with a down home, pumbo-in-praise mix of playful banter, metaphor, rich imagery, history, erudite commentary and revealing dialogue, Stewart engages via a masterful use of light and dark and angularity of shape that is no less than stunning.

Broken up into 12 chapters, a clear nod to the 12 bar blues form, Marsalis and Stewart take the reader on to the tour bus, into the inner lives of Marsalis and his bandmates, actually into the thought processes of the players themselves, the trials and tribulations of the road and the joy of bringing bluesy, swingin' jazz to the world at large. Throughout *Sweet Swing Blues On The Road*, Marsalis puts forth his notion of the blues as being not just a crude, simplistic expression of despair and frustration.

Throughout this book, the blues as metaphor for life sings out as clearly as a bell. From the contrasting photographic style of Stewart to the musical, philosophical musings of Marsalis, the reader, by the end of the tour and book understands Marsalis's conception of blues and swing.

K-Ci & JoJo put a message in the music

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. — Broadening the message of "Just Say No Yet," MCA duo K-Ci and JoJo have formed an alliance with Planned Parenthood for the free distribution of copies of their latest video, "Don't Rush," which urges young people to use caution before jumping into sexual situations.

Copies of the video will be handed out to clients and patients at Planned Parenthood clinics in major cities, while supplies last. Tie-ins with local radio stations will further advertise the giveaway.

Michael McGee, vice president of education at Planned Parenthood Federation of America says, "K-Ci and JoJo's music video, 'Don't Rush' gives young people an important message about making responsible choices about sex and relationships. Too many young people rush into having sex without consid-

ering the consequences. The video shows how that can turn out. I think it's great that K-Ci and JoJo are presenting their audience with some good advice to get to know your partner and 'take love slowly' to protect your relationship and stay healthy."

The video itself presents a series of close encounters, some depicting potentially dangerous situations such as sleeping with unfamiliar partners or practicing unsafe sex. The words "in life we all have choices" appear at the end, hammering home an important message.

At press time, "Don't Rush" was the #1 video on The Box for the third week in a row. Meanwhile, K-Ci and JoJo are still enjoying the success of their multi-format number one single "All My Life" and R&B certified double-platinum album *Love Always*. The duo are currently in the midst of an extensive national concert tour.



Brothers JoJo and K-Ci Hailey are enjoying huge success apart from their work with the group Jodeci.

Scoop Du Jour



Monifah was signed to Universal Records at the insistence of rapper Heavy D.

God willing, Monifah plans to hop on a tour soon to promote her new album, *McHouse*. With who or when exactly, she doesn't know. All she knows right now is that she's been talking about it to a few artists managers and some of her friends and in between that she's been fielding questions from inquisitive journalists who want to know just how tight are she and Queen Latifah? Why did she move to Los Angeles? Is she planning on getting married and, what exactly does she mean by the title "Touch It"? Girlfriend's been camped out at Universal, the record company that signed her based on Heavy D's insistence and she's just plain popped out.

"Yeah, I'm a little tired," she reports, "but I'll keep going. I've been

reading a lot of Deepak Chopra and Iyana Vanzant's *Acts of Faith*. In fact, I'm reading her book *Isles in the Valley* again. There was a point where I wasn't reading positive materials. I was just running around partying and I feel like I have energy to do that I definitely have energy to think about doing something positive for my career."

Besides exerting mental energy in the name of her career, the proud mother of one daughter Akemi (which means beautiful light in Japanese) moved from New York to Los Angeles to record this album.

Of her work with Mario Winans, who produced the lovely "It's So Amazing" for Miss Jones, she says, "He's a genius. It's like he is just there for you during the studio sessions. He gave me a

lot of input and I like that," she says describing her friend. "When we did the song 'Better Half of Me,' we wrote the hook together in like 20 minutes. The song was based on a true experience that happened to me, so it was easy to write about. I did the first verse and the bridge and he wrote the second."

Beside "Better Half of Me," other standout cuts on the album include "Suga Suga," a song penciled in at the second single slot and "Touch It," a song about a woman admitting to the fact that she needs and want intimacy. Explains Monifah, whose name means "beautiful" in a West African language—she doesn't know which one. "I consider myself to be a mature woman and I don't have any hang ups about talking about my personal life. I think we should be able to talk about love or making love in a tasteful, fun way. Because of my youth and maybe ignorance, I didn't know a lot of songs on my last album. So, the audience didn't really get to write me."

"Have You Ever Been In Love," keeps in line with the autobiographical angle this album ably leans towards. The question asked in the song's title is one

she often asked herself until the truth became painfully clear thanks to friendly counseling from friends like Queen Latifah. "She's a good friend. She's been in the business a long time, so there's things she can tell me about the business that I haven't experienced yet. This song, though, it encompasses what's going on in a lot of relationships."

Of her maturing while in the business, Monifah says, "I've grown a lot as a person since my last album and I want people to know that. I'm not going to accept BS in my life anymore. Everything you see on my album is there because I wanted it to be there. At a certain point in your life you must take control."

After embracing Janet Jackson's sentiments on the "control" issue, she is pleased with the final outcome. "This album is what I am as a person. It is me. I like to have fun. I can be playful and I've had good relationships and a lot of not so good ones. I fell in love before and I got hurt. I almost sacrificed everything for this guy and he didn't appreciate it. That's cool though. He's made me a stronger writer."

Jersey Artist to be featured at Annual Autumn Craft Fair

NEW YORK — A quarter of a million visitors are expected to view

craft objects at the 13th Annual Autumn Craft Fair at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, in addition to continuous entertainment, 15 craft demonstrations including an abundance of natural and international cuisine as well as craft displays from every region of the continental United States, France and Canada.

The bi-state region's second most popular crafts exposition, which features twenty craft artists from New Jersey, will be open to the public on the two consecutive weekends of September 5 & 6 and September 12 & 13, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Lincoln Center's Dromochor Park and Fountain Plaza, Columbus Avenue at 64th Street in Manhattan.

Four hundred master artists from



41 states, including Hawaii, seven past artists from Canada and two from France will be at their displays presenting works in porcelain, molded and dyed leather, precious jewelry, blown, stained and fused glass, handcrafted designer fashions in silk, wool and other natural fibers, contemporary and traditional home and office furnishings, toys, musical instruments and more. For more information, call (201) 746-0091.

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5 p.m. to midnight
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Fall preview:

Denzel takes on terrorists in upcoming movie 'The Siege'



Denzel Washington (left), who stars as FBI Special Agent Anthony "Hub" Hubbard, confronts Bruce Willis as General William Devereaux about the declaration of martial law in New York City.

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Acclaimed, Oscar award-winning actor Denzel Washington is the star of the recently released video for the film *The Siege*. In November, Denzel will make his big screen appearance in the Twentieth Century Fox movie *The Siege*.

In the film, Washington stars as Anthony "Hub" Hubbard (Denzel Washington), the head of the joint FBI/NYPD terrorism task force. He's charged with keeping New York City safe from an array of threats that seem to grow more terrifying with each headline.

The Siege is a political thriller, a cautionary fiction that is chillingly close to leading news stories of the



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INVITATION FOR BIDS HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK FOR OFFICE EQUIPMENT

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (HNA) will receive sealed bids for the following equipment:

ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1998 AT 10 A.M.
96-51811 PLAIN PAPER LASER FAX MACHINES

All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable bid number and will be addressed and registered to the above titles by the Contracts Division, Housing Authority of the City of Newark, 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07102 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid Specifications for the above are available for pick up at the Contracts Division of the HNA at the said address. Telephone: (201) 430-2356.

Bid Bonds and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975 c.127 Affirmative Action Program.

The HNA reserves the right to reject any or all bids in the event that less than two (2) bids are received at the designated time of bid opening. The HNA reserves the right to reject any partial bids, and to award all or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the HNA.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

ZIMMERFORD SMITH
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

\$57.10

LEGAL NOTICE

ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION
110 SOUTH GROVE STREET, EAST ORANGE, N.J.
Please take notice that the regular scheduled board meeting set for Thursday, September 3, 1998 has been cancelled.

George F. Librizzi, Tax Administrator

\$16.20

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE

CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

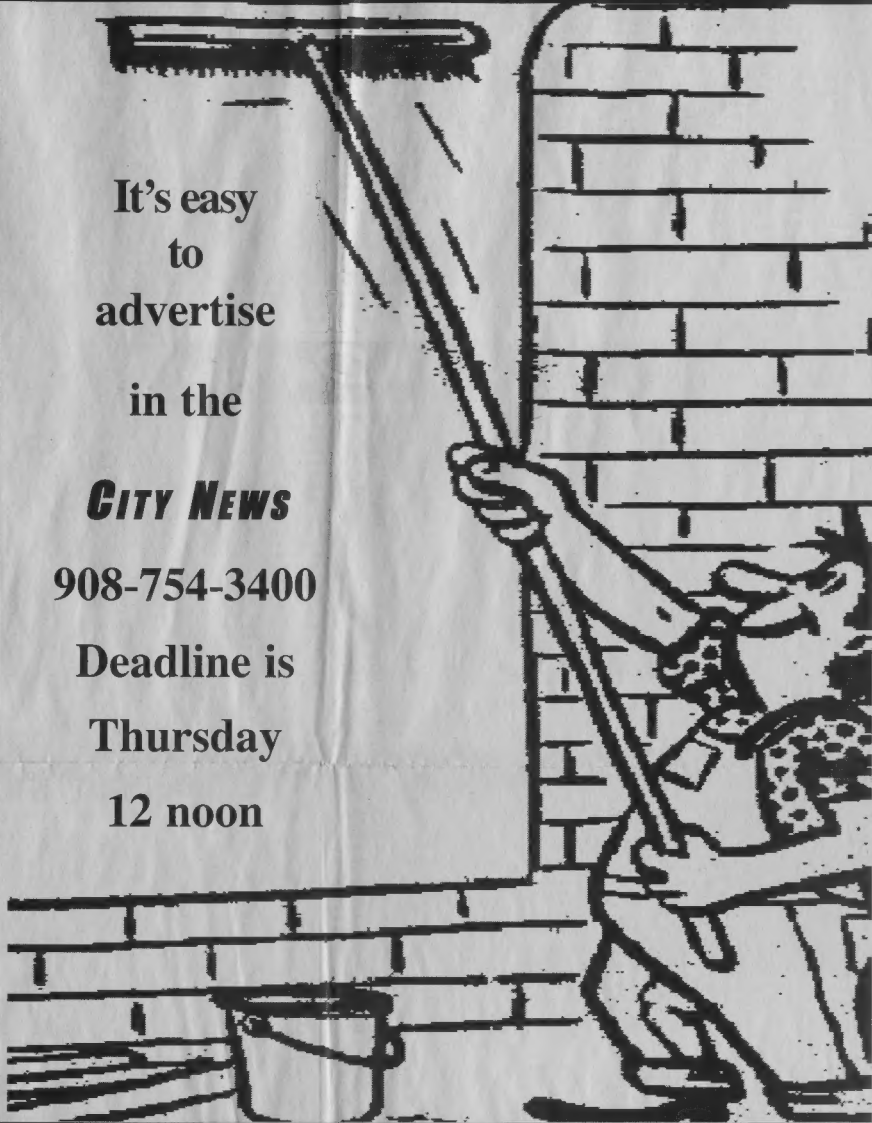
SCOPE OF SERVICE

Date: August 11, 1998

The New Brunswick Housing and Urban Development Authority is seeking to hire an Attorney (or firm) to review and completely revise its entire Personnel Policy. This service will include direct interviews with the Board of Commissioners, to provide three (3) instruction sessions with Authority Staff and Management, on the newly revised policy and its functions.

Please send copies of your resume (and qualifications) and a complete proposal (with price for this service) to: Mr. Kevin Quince, Executive Director, New Brunswick Housing Authority, 71 Nelson Street, New Brunswick, NJ, 08901. Proposals must be submitted by September 4, 1998 (2:00 p.m.) to be considered for this service.

The New Brunswick Housing Authority does not discriminate against applicants for age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, religion or marital status, sex, sexual orientation or on the basis of disability.



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Applications will be available at the site or by calling (973) 824-1121. Applicants must be postmarked no later than Sept. 15, 1998. Waiting list to be established on a first come, first serve basis (based on postmarked date).

Secretary Township Clerks Office

The Township of Montclair is seeking a highly professional individual with excellent organizational skills, data entry skills with accuracy, and the ability to deal pleasantly and effectively with the public in a challenging work environment. Responsibilities include: licensing, general secretarial duties, simple bookkeeping, and election duties as required. REQUIREMENTS: Microsoft Word for Windows, Lotus 1-2-3 and data base programs, typing speed of 55 wpm. SALARY: \$24,811.00 - 29,690.00. APPLY: Township of Montclair, Human Resources Department, 205 Olmsted Avenue, Montclair, NJ 07042 Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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"A mind is a terrible thing to waste"

Send a resume/cover letter to:
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The launch of CityNet hits NJPac

continued from page A1

also looks toward the success of the enterprise. "It's just that, a net," he said of the concept. "It ought to catch every piece of information whether it's out of the corporate offices or the crack houses, because that is how the change has to come - down and up and up and down."

"Looking at it as a person that has been in corporate America for 30 years," said Reverend James, who is also a manager of Urban and Community Affairs at Public Service Electric and Gas, "someone needs to tell us how we can get in there, how we can stay in there, and what we must do to be there."

Bishop Alfred Johnson is head of the New Jersey Area of the United Methodist Church. This body includes 600 churches and has two outreach programs that are looking to partner with initiatives like CityNet (see story on page B2). One program is geared towards curbing the death of 35,000 of the world's children who die everyday of malnutrition-related diseases. The other is the "Shalom Zone," where people of all races and cultural backgrounds work together for greater understanding and common ground. "We are willing to partner with anyone that will spread scriptural holiness and transform the continent."

Charlie Knight, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the 2,000 member Job Grand Lodge, said it was a privilege to be included in the kick-off of this innovative concept and its wide reaching possibilities. Because of the his organization's interest in mentoring urban youth, he said, "On behalf of the Job Grand Lodge, this is philosophy that has our total support."

"Those who want join us in going boldly into the new century can receive the CityNet package of information. We can make a difference by uniting and building our families, our homes and our communities through this effort," Mrs. Johnson said.

Diane Keell Atkins, of the New Garden State Jurisdiction Church of God in Christ, stood in for Bishop William Caboon, who is pastor of House of God, Church of God in Christ. "When you talk about the new millennium, you're only talking about 500 days from now," she said "so it's not too late to start practical planning, non-duplication of effort and a great deal of collaboration. CityNet is a great idea to initiate all three of these ideas."



Vernon Hammond, owner of Vernon H. Hammond Agency, James C. Botten, President, United Methodist Homes of New Jersey, and Bishop Alfred Johnson, The United Methodist Church, New Jersey Area, share a moment together.



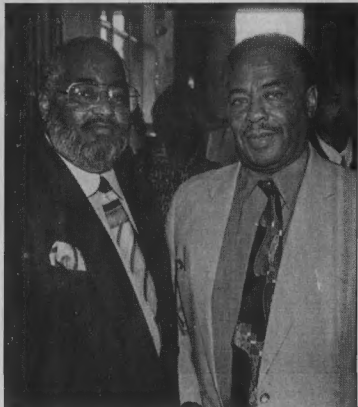
M. John Richard, executive vice president, Development and Public Affairs, NJPac, speaks with Donald Karp, CEO, Broad National Bank, about the commitment we all must make to the success of CityNet.



Richard J. Spears, President of 100 Black Men of New Jersey discusses CityNet with Brenda Murphy, Human Resources Director, NJPac.



Woodbridge Mayor James McGreevey and Assemblyman Gerry Green do some networking during the reception.

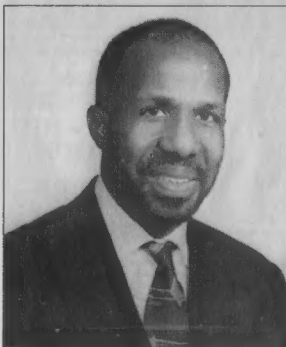


Wilbert C. Russell, City Manager, Asbury Park, Reverend Jethro C. James, Urban and Community Affairs Manager, PSE&G, discuss partnering with CityNet.



City News Sales and Circulation Manager Shanda Laws greets Frederica Bey, Executive Director of Women in Support of the Million Man March (WISOMMM). Bey described CityNet as "an extremely powerful tool that is essential to our community. WISOMMM as well as the Anti-Lynching campaign has already networked with City News as part of the concept, and we've achieved great results."

Psychologist opinion cited in parental rights' court case



West Orange resident Matthew B. Johnson, Ph.D. teaches at the NYU Review of Law.

By g.r. matto
Staff Writer

What is the outcome of a situation when a mother with a serious drug dependency, but close ties to her children? A recent New Jersey Appellate Court Decision, "In the

Social Change written by West Orange Psychologist, Matthew B. Johnson, Ph.D. The K.H.O. case involved a drug dependent mother whose child, K.O. was removed from her custody at birth, when the child was found to be addicted to

heroin. When she tried to get her children back, The Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) moved to terminate her parental rights. Although the mother has failed countless drug rehabilitation programs, she did maintain positive contact with her daughter. The child had not only bonded with her foster parents, she has a good relationship with her mom and other members of her biological family.

Johnson, who is currently an Associate Professor of Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, testified in favor of reviewing more than the issue of foster parent and child bonding in custody cases, and noted that many other factors should be considered when a determination is made to terminate the natural parent's rights. In the past, New Jersey's child welfare agency could move to end a biological parent's rights by demonstrating evidence of the child's bonding with the foster family. The major disadvantage to the system is when they do not have resources to support their claim.

Regarding the K.H.O. opinion, Johnson, who has served as a consultant to private attorneys and agencies throughout the state said, "It is critical that when a woman becomes involved with the Division of Youth and Family Service that they have adequate legal representation and access to independent psychological examinations."

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